



Board of Commissioners

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March 14, 2023

HB 1166 (Hearing on 3/16/2023)

Dear Chair Luick and Honorable Members of the Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee:

The Bowman County Commission is requesting a DO NOT PASS vote on HB 1166 to eliminate state funding for county weather modification programs. Removing state funding could potentially eliminate the weather modification program that in 2016, the people in Bowman County voted to continue by a 70% in favor of and 30% not in favor.

If this bill passes it could have a very negative impact on the local economy. Businesses, local elevators, machinery dealerships, and sales tax are a few examples.

The Atmospheric Resource Board administers the Pilot Internship Program through the University of North Dakota. This is a great program for training pilots, specifically through weather modification on its cloud seeding program. This program could be at risk of being discontinued if funding is eliminated at both the state and local level.

Bowman County Commission appreciates your time and consideration for a DO NOT PASS on HB 1166.

Sincerely,

Rick Braaten, Chairman
Bowman County Board of Commissioners